

# BRIEF REVIEW OF A WEEK'S EVENTS

RECORD OF THE IMPORTANT  
HAPPENINGS IN ITEM-  
IZED FORM.

Home and Foreign News Gathered  
From All Quarters of the World,  
and Prepared for Busy Men.

## INTERMOUNTAIN

With a letter from his mother-in-law announcing her coming for the Christmas holidays gripped in his hand, Kenneth K. Kane, of Denver, a railroad clerk, aged 40, fired a bullet through his brain late Sunday afternoon.

Glen H. Mack, a wealthy resident of Ogden, Utah, shot and seriously injured his wife and then attempted suicide, being probably fatally wounded. Mack was intoxicated.

Police of Spokane are searching for Mrs. Minnie Elgie and May Bennas, sisters, who disappeared after receiving a threatening letter from a former convict. It is feared they have been murdered.

Fifteen hundred sacks of potatoes, weighing 100 pounds each, were disposed of at the potato exposition conducted by one of the public markets at Seattle, as an experiment in reducing the cost of living. The prices ranged from 40 cents to 60 cents a sack, the average being 45 cents. The market quotation on potatoes was \$1.50.

Charged with having poisoned the last food remaining in the house for the sustenance of his wife and five children, and with having caused the death by that means of his 3-year-old daughter, Edwin Stoddard, a home-steader living on Toroda creek, fifteen miles from Curlew, Wash., is being sought by the authorities.

Prices for the necessities of life in Salt Lake are higher than for thirty years, and prices on practically every staple food are 24 to 100 per cent higher than they were December 20, 1907.

## DOMESTIC

The Los Angeles Produce Exchange has decided to discontinue the activities of its butter and egg committee in quoting and fixing prices. This action was the result of the government's suit against the Elgin butter interests.

Dashing the Christmas hopes of Mormon refugees who thought they would be able to return to their Mexican homes in a short time, the Mexican rebels have again gathered their entire strength south of Juarez in the vicinity of the colonies.

An unidentified negro was shot and instantly killed while attempting to rob the crew and passengers of a train near Chandler, Okla. He was shot by an operative of a detective agency who was a passenger.

For the first time since she was a child 4 years old, Miss Lillian Patrick and her father, Albert T. Patrick, recently pardoned by Governor Dix of New York, met Sunday at St. Louis. The young woman is now 16 years old.

Governor Osborne of Michigan has announced that so anxious is he to "get back to nature" he has given his two automobiles and his horses to friends and will hereafter seek recreation as a pedestrian.

The torpedoed destroyer Balch was launched Saturday from the Cramp shipyard at Philadelphia. Miss Grace Balch of Washington, D. C., a descendant of Commodore Balch, christened the vessel.

An unidentified man on the steamer Sima, coming at San Francisco, dislocated the vertebrae of his neck by trying to hang himself, and then the jolting of an ambulance put them back again.

Jack Johnson, the negro world's champion heavyweight pugilist who is at liberty on a \$30,000 bond on a charge of violating the Mann act, has purchased a Christmas present for his white wife, formerly Lucille Cameron, a home in the heart of the exclusive Lake Geneva summer resort, near Chicago.

Four "auto bandits" attacked two paymasters of the Silk Finishing company of America, in Chicago, beat them into unconsciousness and robbed them of \$1200 for the weekly pay rolls.

Eggs at 24 cents a dozen were on sale at twenty stations in Boston on Saturday. Various stores, polling booths and wagons were used for the purpose by women conducting the campaign.

President Taft, in a speech at St. Augustine, Fla., congratulated the south upon the election of a Democratic president, predicted nationwide prosperity under the new administration and spoke of the way this nation takes the quadrennial verdict of the people at the polls.

Daniel J. Sully, the dethroned cotton king, is making plans to return to New York and again enter the game of speculation. Sully, owing to a court order in a suit that he lost, has been an exile from New York state for several years, but he has given orders to file suit for the reopening of the case.

Cornell has a perfect woman, according to an announcement by Dr. Esther Parker, the physical examiner at Sage college. Miss Elsie Scheel of Brooklyn is the most perfect physically of any student she has ever examined.

A party of treasure hunters, headed by Miss Harry Tili and Miss Genevieve Davis, has left Panama for Cocos island. The island lies in the Pacific about 550 miles southwest of Panama, and for years has been the lure of treasure seekers.

Nine persons, five men and four women are detained by the police in connection with the brutal murder of J. H. Logne, a diamond merchant, in his office in Chicago.

A private bank in Chicago which advertised to pay 100 per cent interest a year, "on all deposits from 1 cent to \$15,000,000," was closed with the arrest of F. B. Carson, its promoter.

J. Frank Hickey was found guilty at Buffalo, N. Y., of murder in the second degree in having strangled to death Joseph Josephs a 7-year-old boy of Lackawanna, October 12, 1911.

John S. Huyler, aged 19, the young son of the late John S. Huyler millionaire candy manufacturer, fell beneath a train at Morristown, N. J., and was killed.

## WASHINGTON

More than 200 Japanese coal miners were entombed and are probably dead as the result of a terrible explosion which occurred in the Ubari colliery at Sapporo on the island of Hokkaido.

News of the coming to America under the name of Ruiz of Cipriano Castro, one time president and practically dictator of Venezuela, has been sent to the state department from the American embassy in Paris.

The new series of stamps for parcels post matter have been issued and will be sent to all postoffices before the law takes effect on January 1. Ordinary postage stamps will not be accepted in payment of the carriage of parcels post matter.

The foreign trade of the United States in 1912 will exceed all previous records. Figures indicate that the imports of the year will approximate \$1,800,000,000, against \$1,563,000,000 in 1910, which was the former high record, and that the exports will aggregate \$2,400,000,000, against \$2,093,000,000, against \$2,093,000,000 in the former high record year for exports, 1911.

Railroad companies and steamship combinations control the regular steamship lines of the United States and have destroyed competition on many of the water highways of commerce, declares Luther Conant, Jr., commissioner of corporations, in a report to President Taft.

President Taft's ultimatum to Mexico was telegraphed Friday to Montgomery Schuyler, Jr., American chargé d'affaires at the Mexican capital in the absence of Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson.

## FOREIGN

Madame Bloch, a novelist, who on July 31 shot and killed Mrs. Minnie Bridgeman, wife of James E. Bridgeman, an employee of the Paris branch of an American life insurance company, was acquitted in the assize court at Paris on Monday of the charge of homicide.

The London Post published an authoritative Greek account of the recent fighting at Epirus, according to which Ali Riza Pasha, the Turkish commander at Janina, and his chief of staff Djavid Pasha, both were killed and the entire Turkish artillery in the San goni Pass fighting were captured by the Greeks.

The name of Samuel T. Adams, a present assistant secretary of the interior, is persistently mentioned as the future occupant of the secretaryship under President Woodrow Wilson.

The Mexican chamber of deputies has levied a flat 5 per cent increase on import duties. This action, however, does not dispose of the general tariff revision bill which provides a special tax on numerous articles, especially luxuries.

The British schooner Geoglana, with ten passengers and a crew of five, foundered off Lucea, Jamaica, in trying to make that port during the November gulf storm, and all on board were lost, according to dispatches just received.

The Vienna Reichspost says it learns from Cattaro on the Adriatic sea that the Serbian forces are assisting the Montenegrins.

It is reported from the island of Chios, off the Turkish Asiatic coast, that the Greeks have bombarded the village of Pitos, where the Ottoman wounded are in the hospitals.

Thirty-five men were imprisoned when the Nelson tunnel of the Happy Thought mine at Crede, Colo., caught fire and all were rescued after fifty tons of debris were removed.

A film caught fire during a cinematograph performance at Barraquas, Germany. The flames spread with great rapidity, causing a dreadful panic. Twelve persons were killed and twenty persons injured.

Charles Jones, an American, employed as a telephone lineman in the Yaqui river district, was found dead near Potero, Mexico. There were four bullet wounds in his back.

The British armored cruiser Natal sailed out of Portsmouth harbor with the body of Ambassador Reid on board Saturday afternoon, amid a salute of nineteen guns.

A Rome newspaper publishes a sensational story that a young anarchist Henry Dal Ferro of San Giovanni, in Persiceto, near Bologna, who was designated by lot to assassinate King Victor Emmanuel, attempted to commit suicide rather than carry out his mission.

A colony of American negroes, twenty miles west of Durango, is reported to have been attacked by a band of rebels. Two of the defenders according to the report, were wounded and a number of women were mistreated. The rebels sacked the place.

# TURKS LISTEN TO THE DEMANDS OF THE ALLIES

Penalties Imposed by Victorious Balkan States Read at the Peace Conference.

London.—After several days of preliminary skirmishing in accordance with the cherished traditions of oriental diplomacy, the Turkish delegates on Monday faced the real attack of the allies at the fifth meeting of the peace conference.

The victorious allies laid their most important cards on the table. These were in the form of territorial conditions which they had agreed to impose on the Ottoman empire. The demands as set forth were:

First—The cession by Turkey of all the territory west of a line starting from a point east of Rodosto on the sea of Marmora, to a point in the bay of Malatra, on the Black sea, and excluding the peninsula of Gallipoli. Albania's status to be decided by the powers.

Second—The cession of the Aegean islands occupied by the Greek forces in the present war and by the Italians in the recent war.

Third—The cession to Greece of all Turkish rights in the island of Crete. The allies did not reveal the financial proposals which they will make to Turkey, reserving them for a future meeting.

Before the allies presented their specifications, the Turks announced that their government was prepared to proceed with the negotiations, leaving the question of revictualing Adrianople for discussion between Turkey and Bulgaria. They abandoned their previous request to provision Scutari and Janina.

The formal conference lasted only a quarter of an hour.

## AN ERA OF INVESTIGATION.

House Proposed to Probe Alleged Trusts After Holidays.

Washington.—An era of investigation probably unprecedented in the house will be ushered in when congress reassembles in January. Members of the house will divide their attention among seven distinct investigations scheduled to begin immediately after the holidays. They are:

Inquiry into the so-called money trust; hearings before the ways and means committee preliminary to tariff revision by the next congress; the probe into the New Haven-Grand Trunk railroad situation in New England; the judiciary committee's hearing on trusts; the hearing into the ramifications of the so-called foreign and domestic shipping trust by the merchant marine committee; the Glass sub-committee's investigation incident to the framing of a currency bill, and the inquiry into the affairs of the office of superintendent of insurance in the District of Columbia, with testimony to be taken not only in Washington, but also probably New York.

The insurance inquiry will begin December 26 with the District of Columbia commissioners on the witness stand.

## OROZCO TAKES CASES GRANDES.

Mexican Rebel Commander Defeats Federals Under General Blanco.

El Paso, Tex.—Casas Grandes, the most important town in the ranching and lumbering districts southwest of Juarez, has been taken by rebels, personally commanded by General Pascual Orozco, Jr. It was reported Monday from both federal and rebel official sources. Also it was said that the federal column of 800 men marching against the rebels at Ascension was defeated, with its commander, General Jose Blanco, among the prisoners taken.

## Strike Stream in Tunnel.

Berne, Switzerland.—Hundreds of workmen engaged in constructing the Mondor tunnel through the Jura mountains, between Italy and France, had a narrow escape from death Monday when the pickax of one of the workmen opened a powerful subterranean stream. The damage was heavy, but there were no deaths.

## French Novelist Goes Free.

Paris.—Mme. Bloch, a novelist, who on July 31 last shot and killed Mrs. Minnie Bridgeman, the wife of James E. Bridgeman, an employee of the Paris branch of an American life insurance company, was acquitted in the assizes court here Monday of the charge of homicide.

## Alleged Count in Prison.

Lincoln, Neb.—Max Von Werner, who claims to be a German count, was brought to the penitentiary Monday from Madison county to serve an indeterminate sentence of one to five years for obtaining money under false pretenses.

## To Eliminate Negro as Soldier.

Washington.—The proposal to eliminate the negro as an American soldier is a topic slated for consideration during the conference of the ranking officers of the army is held here on January 8.

## Greeks Drive Turks.

Athens.—The Greek army has driven the Turks from the Klari defile, where they entrenched after their defeat at Gorizia. The Greeks are continuing the pursuit in the direction of Llassoviki.

# ECONOMY IS ISSUE

REFORMATION OF "SPENDING  
CONDITIONS" IN FEDERAL  
SERVICE BEGUN.

SAVING MAY BE \$100,000,000

Postmasters Fear Wilson Will Rescind Taft's Civil Service Order and Take Away Their Jobs—Moving Day for Government Officials Approaches.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington.—Men who have made a study of "spending conditions" in the federal service believe and have reported that more than \$100,000,000 a year can be saved to the government if certain recommendations for economy be observed, and the claim is that this saving can be made without in any way crippling the service.

It is probable that before the next congress ends the entire system of making appropriations will be changed, that many bureaus will be consolidated and the supply bills cut many millions of dollars, the money saved to be used for extending the useful services of the government to fields not already covered.

When Theodore Roosevelt was president he appointed what was known as "the Keep commission." It was the duty of Mr. Keep and his colleagues to study business methods in vogue in the different departments and to see how the work could be shortened and yet be just as effective as it was under existing conditions.

## Start Made On Economy.

When President Taft came into office one of the first things he did was to call his cabinet officers together to urge upon them the necessity of economic administration. Secretary MacVeagh was made the chairman of a cabinet committee charged with the work of economic administration. It was soon discovered that in single departments of the government the different bureaus purchased their supplies independently of one another and that different prices were paid for precisely the same article. One bureau for instance would pay two or three cents a dozen more for lead pencils than another bureau was paying for the same article of the same manufacturer.

A good many economies, small as compared to the saving which it is wished, were made. It was a start, however, for greater things. The system which was in vogue in the treasury department, or perhaps it had better be called a lack of system, was the same which held in nearly every other department of government. All the secretaries got busy in the saving venture and there was an "economic spurt" all along the line.

Not long after the first initial economic venture President Taft appointed a commission on economy and efficiency with Frederick A. Cleveland as its chief. This commission has been at work for more than two years and it has worked out an elaborate and yet at the same time simple scheme for saving Uncle Sam money.

## Budget System Approved.

President-Elect Wilson has sanctioned the budget system of appropriations which has been urged by the present president and by the commission on economy and efficiency. budget system all the appropriations asked for go to dozens of committees of congress. For instance, the naval appropriation is acted on by several different committees, each one taking a part and no one of them knowing just what the other is doing. The result is a scattering of energies and a scattering of money. Under the budget system all the appropriations will be considered by the chairman of different committees acting together. They thus can get concrete knowledge of the whole situation at once and by intelligent direction can stop many holes of waste.

If the economy and efficiency commission's recommendations finally be adopted by congress it is believed that the agricultural interests of the country largely will be aided. There are bills now in congress looking to this very thing, but the cost is said to be prohibitive because of the present extravagant methods. With a saving of \$100,000,000 a year, and some of the experts place it as high as \$200,000,000 a year, many of the helpful measures now under consideration by the law makers can be passed, the money will be forthcoming, and the treasury will be just as well off as it is now and the benefits to the people will be multiplied. This matter is going to be a live issue in congress from now on.

## Postmasters Fear for Jobs.

Naturally the Democrats of both house and senate are looking ahead to the glad time when they will come into full possession of the administration in all its branches. The Democratic leaders are nonplussed as to what to do about the blanket civil service executive order issued by President Taft not long before the election, the effect of which was to put nearly 40,000 postmasters of the country on the civil service list. It goes without saying perhaps that nearly all of these postmasters are Republicans, many of whom have held office for years and who, unless the executive order be set aside, will continue to draw their pay from Uncle Sam for the years to come or until death or misconduct removes them from their delivery windows.

There are few Republican leaders who find any fault at all with their

Democratic colleagues for urging that President-elect Wilson set aside the civil service executive order of President Taft as soon after March 4 as possible. A good many of the Republicans are willing to confess that it would have been a hard blow to their party organization if years ago all the postmasters of the country had been removed from the field of political appointments. They say they would have resented it and that they cannot honestly complain because the Democrats now are seeking to prepare to have the order rescinded. The Republicans of course say that the postmasters ought to be kept on the civil service list, but that this fact naturally does not prevent Democratic resentment because the order was issued just at a time to do damage to the faithful who have been waiting long for preferment.

For years labor has asked that a new department of government should be created to deal alone with labor problems, with a labor member in the president's cabinet as its presiding chief. Not long before he set sail for Bermuda, President-elect Wilson expressed a desire to have a labor chief in his family circle. The Republicans in the past have not been averse to the establishment of a labor department. The Democrats in the main seem to be for it, and so it is probable that one of the legislative acts of moment of the present session will be to establish such a department and to give Mr. Wilson the right to name an additional member of the cabinet.

## Moving Day Approaches.

To a great many people Washington will not be Washington after March 4. The day following the inauguration, or at any rate some day not far removed from it will be "moving day" for hosts of long time Washington residents, calling themselves temporary residents, but hoping that as the years went on they finally might write the adjective "permanent" before the noun.

What changes will take place in Washington in the personnel of the existing office forces? Well, of course, first and foremost there is the president who must move with his family and his law library to the old home on the banks of the Ohio river. Prior to the day of moving from the White House Mr. Taft will entertain for two days his coming successor as chief executive, and the successor's good wife.

Phlander Chase Knox, the secretary of state, on March 4 will give way to William Jennings Bryan possibly, or certainly to some other good Democrat of the country. Mr. Knox has been in Washington in one official capacity or another for a good many years, and he has a fine old home on K street where with Mrs. Knox he entertains in a hospitable spirit Republicans, Democrats, Progressive-Republicans and Progressives alike, to say nothing of foreigners and the casual American visitors to Washington. It is said that Mr. Knox will move only from the state department and that he will keep his K street house for nine months a year and will spend the other three months in the state of Pennsylvania which, after he had been attorney general in the Roosevelt cabinet sent him to the senate.

## MacVeagh Will Not Depart.

Franklin MacVeagh, secretary of the treasury, is the only other cabinet officer who will not move from Washington when some good Democratic financier takes his seat in the big building where Uncle Sam's money is kept. Two years ago next Christmas day Mrs. Franklin MacVeagh presented her husband with a house on Sixteenth street. Mr. MacVeagh from the windows of his residence at the time saw the Christmas gift building rising stone by stone only a block or two away, but he had no idea who was building it or who was to live in it. Finally it was completed, and as the children say, the secretary of the treasury found the new residence "in his stocking" on Christmas morning with the "Merry Christmas card" of his wife attached. Mr. MacVeagh, it is understood, will not return to Chicago, but will continue to live in Washington in his holiday gift house.

Secretary of Commerce and Labor Charles Nagel will return to St. Louis to take up the practice of the law.

Secretary of the Interior Walter L. Fisher will return to Chicago to continue the course of court pleading and of closet counseling which he followed before Mr. Taft called him to Washington.

Attorney General George W. Wickes also will return to the law and probably will become a member again of the old established New York firm with which he severed his connection when bidden to come to Washington.

## Hitchcock May Enter Business.

Frank H. Hitchcock, postmaster general, it is currently reported, has been offered eight different business positions from time to time if he would consent to give up directing Uncle Sam's mail matters and would return to business life. It is not known whether Mr. Hitchcock will accept one of these former offers or will wait for a new and more attractive one, but the confirmed word is that he is to enter business in New York city.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and the Secretary of the Navy George Von L. Meyer will go back to the law in the one case and to business in the other. It is possible, however, that Mr. Meyer still may have political ambitions and that he may strive one day to be made United States senator from Massachusetts.

James Wilson, who has been secretary of agriculture since the year 1897 and has broken all records of continuous cabinet service, finally is to go back to private life. Mr. Wilson will move, it is said, to an Iowa farm.

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## Making the Parson Useful.

A few days ago a little boy who lives on the west side swallowed a coin, and his frantic mother immediately called the family doctor. When he arrived the mother was in hysterics thinking her son was about to die.

The physician looked the smiling youngster over and in a solemn voice asked:

"Who is your pastor?"

This caused more tears, and in a trembling tone she inquired:

"Oh, doctor, is it as serious as that?"

The doctor repeated the question and this time the mother replied:

"I go to the Christian church."

"Yes, I know your pastor. Better send for him. He is the best man to raise money that I know."—Kansas City Star.

## A Careful Chauffeur.

"The man who gets this position as my chauffeur must be able to prove by his record that he is a careful driver," asserted the pompous man.

"I can easily meet your requirements," replied the applicant. "Seven coroner's juries have exonerated me of blame in fatal accidents."—Buffalo Express.

## Misleading.

"There's only on thing I've got against the Congressional Record," said Farmer Cottosel.

"You refer to its occasional suspension of publication?"

"No. It's kind of misleading." A lot of the speeches our congressmen makes about himself ought to be marked "adv."—Washington Star.

## A Double Dose.

"But, pa," whispered Johnny, "Ma's spanked me already for bein' sassy to her."

"Well, I'm going to wallop you for it, too," retorted his father, according to Harper's Weekly. "And do you know why?"

"Well," said Johnny, resolved to get the greatest amount of satisfaction out of a hopeless state of affairs, "I guess it's because what's sassy for the goose is sassy for the gander."

Whereupon pa laid it on just a trifle harder.

## How Could She Tell?

A prominent society woman recently advertised for a cook and waitress. "German or Scandinavian sisters preferred." Shortly after the time for the arrival of the applicants a well-dressed young colored girl appeared.

"I came in answer to the advertisement, ma'am," she said. "I'd like to do chamberwork or waiting."

"I advertised for Germans or Scandinavians," replied the mistress.

"Yes, I know, ma'am," said the colored girl, "but you didn't say whether white or black, ma'am."

## A Rap at the Men.

Women will never try to destroy man's egotism. That would make the disposition of the sexes too much alike. Marriage will bring out whatever there is in a man, whether it is good or bad.

## Any Woman.

An "affinity" is not a woman who has driven a man to distraction; she is any woman who happens to come along when he is looking for distraction," says the veteran wife of a "tired business man."